

Flathead National Forest

www.fs.usda.gov/flathead twitter.com/flatheadnf www.facebook.com/discovertheflathead

Media Release

April 16, 2014 Contact: Wade Muehlhof (406) 758-5252

Collaboration Meetings to Focus on Geographical Areas

Next Opportunity to Engage in Plan Revision is April 21 through 24

KALISPELL, MONT. – The public is invited to participate in the upcoming Flathead National Forest (FNF) Plan Revision Geographic Area Stakeholder Collaboration Meetings. All meetings will take place from 5:30 PM to 9:00 PM at the Flathead National Forest Supervisor's Office, 650 Wolfpack Way, Kalispell, Montana.

- Monday, April 21: Salish Mountains Geographic Area
- Tuesday, April 22: Swan Valley Geographic Area
- Wednesday, April 23: Hungry Horse, South Fork & Middle Fork Geographic Areas
- Thursday, April 24: North Fork Geographic Area

The April collaboration meetings will focus on developing suggestions for "unique characteristics and distinctive roles and contributions" and "desired conditions" for specific geographic areas on the Flathead National Forest. This is a great opportunity for people who have not yet engaged to get involved in Forest Plan Revision.

The revised forest plan will be developed using the 2012 forest planning rule which places greater emphasis on collaboration and public involvement than ever before. While we have good relationships with many of our partners, stakeholders, neighbors and visitors we need more information and input to move forward with this important planning effort. The current process the Forest is engaged in is the public's opportunity to collaborate and provide recommendations for how they would like to see the Flathead National Forest managed in the future.

Please **register as soon as possible** for either in-person or conference call attendance by going to the forest's website and clicking on the registration link on the Plan Revision Page: www.fs.usda.gov/flathead. For those unable to participate there is an E-collaboration tool, Google Groups, which provides another way to provide feedback on the topics that will be discussed in the meetings. Details on how to use this tool can also be found on the forest's website.